October 21, 2010

Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America Give Arcuri an "A" on 2010 Congressional Report Card

WASHINGTON, DC-Today, the nonpartisan Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA) awarded U.S. Rep. Michael A. Arcuri (NY-24) an "A" grade for his outspoken leadership and ongoing commitment to honoring the service of America's veterans.

"As a grateful nation, we have an obligation to our returning veterans and their families for the sacrifices they have made to keep our nation safe and secure," said Arcuri. "From education and job opportunities, to health care and retirement benefits-our veterans deserve the very best we have to offer. Coming from a family of veterans myself, I am honored to be recognized by IAVA and I will continue to work to ensure that our veterans unique needs are met and their sacrifices are never forgotten."

"Iraq and Afghanistan veterans across the country would like to thank Congressman Arcuri for his leadership on the key issues facing new veterans," **said Paul Rieckhoff, Founder and Executive Director of IAVA Action Fund**

. "This Report Card is a critical tool for showing the American people who in Washington really supports Iraq and Afghanistan veterans, and who just offers cheap rhetoric. Unfortunately, with the exception of legislators like Congressman Arcuri, Congress has been largely ineffective on critical issues like education, jobs, and disability claims for veterans."

The IAVA Congressional Report Card is based on votes and Member sponsorship on 18 critical bills affecting veterans in the 111th Congress (2009-2010), and includes measures on preventing budget cuts to the VA, providing new assistance for military caregivers, providing bonus pay for troops who served in stop loss situations, and supporting new job and educational opportunities for America's veterans. A searchable version of the Report Card can be found at http://iavaaction.org/report-card.

The IAVA is the nation's first and largest group dedicated to the troops and veterans of the wars

in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the civilian supporters of those troops and veterans. It's 2010 Congressional Report Card serves as a legislative scorecard evaluating Senators and Members of the House of Representatives on issues related to promoting and protecting benefits for returning Iraq and Afghanistan war troops.

Click here to see a list of key veterans' legislation Arcuri has supported during the 111 \pm Congress.

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